

GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ABSTRACT

Public Services - Forest Department - Disciplinary action against Sri Ch. A. Bala Raju, Deputy Range Officer (Retd), Certain irregularities committed in execution of SMC works under RIDF-IX in Vizianagaram - Inquiry finalized and findings received - Imposition of penalty of 2% cut in pension for a period of one (1) year - Show-Cause-Notice issued - Explanation received - Final orders - Issued.

ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY (SEC.IV) DEPARTMENT

G.O.MS.No. 99

Dated:19-12-2014.
Read the following:

1. From the Prl.C.CF, Lr.Rc.No.52947/2005/K1, dt:2-11-2010.
2. Govt.Memo.No.5089/For.IV/A2/2011-1, Dt.01-08-2011.
3. Govt.Memo.No.5089/For.IV/A2/2011-2, Dt.13-09-2011 & 2-11-2011.
4. From the Prl.C.CF, Lr.Rc.No.52947/2005/K1, dt:2-11-2011.
5. Govt.Memo.No.5089/For.IV/A2/2011-4, Dt.23-12-2011.
6. Govt.Lr.No.5089/For.IV/A2/2011-6, Dt.17-02-2014.
7. From the Secy. I/c APPSC Lr. No.682/RT/2/2014, Dt:10.06.2014.

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ORDER:

In the reference 1st read above, the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, A.P. Hyderabad has informed that an Article of Charge was issued against Sri Ch. A. Bala Raju, Deputy Range Officer (Retd), Bobbili Section of Parvathipuram Range for the irregularities committed by him in execution of SMC works under RIDF-IX (SMC) Scheme in Vizianagaram Division, by the Conservator of Forests, Visakhapatnam, under Rule 20 of A.P. Civil Services (CCA) Rules, 1991, vide Ref.No.10639/05/M8, dt:16.01.2006 on the following count:

Article:-

"That he had while working as Deputy Range Officer, Bobbili Section of Parvathipuram Range shown gross neglect of duty, lack of devotion to duty and booked expenditure to the SMC works carried out in Kapuvenkayyapeta VSS of Shikariganji Beat as they were carried out manually even though they were carried out by machine by falsifying the records and caused loss to a tune of Rs.88,280/- to the Government Exchequer."

2. The Charged Officer has acknowledged the Article of Charge on 06-02-2006 and submitted explanation on 16-02-2006. Not satisfied with the explanation, the Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests, has appointed the Conservator of Forests, Visakhapatnam as Common Inquiry Officer and the Divisional Forest Officer, Visakhapatnam as Presenting Officer respectively vide Proc.No.52947/2005/PXA3, dt:13.10.2006. The Inquiry Officer has completed the inquiry and submitted his findings.

3. The findings of the Inquiry Officer have been communicated to the Charged Officer vide his office final notice dt:13-01-2008 for submission of his further defence statement if any. The Charged Officer has acknowledge the final notice on 06-04-2008 and submitted his further defence statement on 13-04-2008, in which he has stated during his tenure as Deputy Range Officer of Bobbili Section, Vizianagaram Division, from 10-07-2005 to 2-12-2005 executed the SMC works. He contended that there is no loss to Government as the deviation amount was recovered and got remitted into the Government account which made good of the loss sustained to Government.

4. The findings of the Inquiry Officer have been verified with reference to the records and it is noticed that the Charged Officer during his tenure as Deputy Range Officer, Bobbili Section of Parvathipuram Range, Vizianagaram Division from 2.07.2005 to 2-12-2005 has shown gross neglect of duty, lack of devotion to duty and booked expenditure for the SMC works carried out in Kapuvenkayyapeta VSS of Shikariganji Beat, as the works were carried out manually, even though they were carried out by machines by falsifying the records. He has intentionally acted against the interest of Government. Had the Divisional Forest Officer, FSD, Visakhapatnam

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and Divisional Forest Officer, Vizianagaram not inspected the above irregularity, the same might have gone unnoticed. The Charged Officer himself has admitted that before allowing the chairperson to draw the amount to make payments to labour combined with VSS member, he has satisfied with the execution of works in full shape on the ground and they only recorded in the M.Book. The Prl.CCF has finally stated that the Charged Officer has remitted the entire amount of Rs.88,280/- fixed by the Divisional Forest Officer, Vizianagaram as his share into the Government account, and hence there is no loss sustained to the Government.

5. The Charged Officer Sri Ch. A. Bala Raju, Deputy Range Officer has retired from the Government service on attaining the age of superannuation on 31-12-2007. Hence, the disciplinary proceedings are continued under Rule 9 (2) of A.P. Revised Pension Rules, 1980 and requested the Government to pass suitable orders in the matter.

6. Government after careful examination of the matter, with reference to the enquiry officer's report, material made available, observed that the charges framed against the Charged Officer were held proved. Hence, it was provisionally decided to impose a penalty of 2% cut in pension for (1) one year against the Charged Officer Sri Ch. A. Bala Raju, Deputy Range Officer (Retd), formerly Vizianagaram Division under rule 9 of A.P. Revised Pension Rules, 1980.

7. Accordingly, a Show-Cause-Notice was issued to the retired officer vide reference 5th read above. The Charged Officer has not submitted his further explanation. The concurrence of Andhra Pradesh Public Service Commission has been obtained vide reference 7th read above.

8. Government after careful examination of the matter hereby order to impose the penalty of 2% cut in pension for (1) one year against the Charged Officer Sri Ch. A. Bala Raju, Deputy Range Officer (Retd), formerly Vizianagaram Division under rule 9 of A.P. Revised Pension Rules, 1980.

9. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, A.P. Hyderabad is requested to take action accordingly.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

S.P. SINGH
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To
The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad.
The Individual (through Principal Chief Conservator of Forests).

Copy to:
The Accountant General (A&E) A.P., Hyderabad.
The Director of Treasuries & Accounts, Hyderabad, A.P.
The Secretary I/c, A.P. Public Service Commission, Hyderabad(with ref. to
Lr. No.682/RT/2/2014, Dt:10.06.2014.)
Sf./Sc.

//FORWARDED :: BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER